

What Leaders Need to Pray to End Well

Lorne Sanny led The Navigators for 30 years. I heard Lorne speak on numerous occasions and was always shaped by the Holy Spirit as Lorne opened God's Word. In one talk, he had a list of things **he was praying about which might trip him up at some point and that he wanted to pray defensively about those things...**a great idea so I adopted his prayer list for myself and have been praying over seven things. Here they are:

1. For sexual purity and against lust
2. For humility and against pride
3. For contentment and against greed
4. For patience and against anger
5. For wisdom and against foolishness
6. For integrity and against deceitfulness
7. For excellence and against mediocrity

I have come to the conclusion, that if I ever were to disqualify myself (1 Corinthians 9:27), there is a good chance it will be linked to one of these seven things.

Of late, the one that demands most of my attention is lack of patience. I have fallen into more sin in my Christian walk due to a significant lack of patience than anything else I can think of. I know that God knows my son...that He knows that he has stage 4 cancer...I know that He can heal him, I know He hears prayers...I know! But there are times, as I walk with God, He seems to walk awfully slow. Obviously, He is not walking slow, but I'm walking too fast, getting ahead of Him. Admittedly, I hate to wait which is sometimes my undoing and the source of sin.

Each day I pray for lots of different leaders so that, by His grace, they would *be "Leaders Who Last."* I pray for our country's leaders...I pray for our pastors, missionaries and teachers...I pray for CBMC and all those who support the ministry...and I pray for our Forum's marketplace businessmen.

- I'm praying that all of them will stay sexually pure and faithful to their spouse, being a good model for their children
- I'm praying that these men and women will be genuinely humble and careful to give God the glory for any fruit resulting from their activity.
- I'm praying that they would not be grasping for power and money which, unfortunately, too many leaders are doing these days, but would rather be content with the finances and ministry fruit He provides

- I'm praying for all to wait on the lord knowing that He is sovereign, in control from the beginning to the end and is generous with mercy and grace.
- I'm praying that they would acknowledge that wisdom begins with the fear of the lord and that they give honor and glory to the source of truth and knowledge.
- I'm praying that these men seek the truth, to be men of integrity that they can discern right from wrong and good from evil
- I'm praying that all of them will be able to do excellent work with their God-given gifts while, at the same time, practicing Sabbath as a principle, not just a day.

Fellow leaders, far too many are falling by the wayside, are disqualifying themselves and being removed from the battle. What are you praying for yourself and for those leaders with whom you work and know?

I encourage you to make your own list and to be faithful to pray everyday!